

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **09/361,610**
Amendment filed November 2, 2004
Reply to OA dated August 10, 2004

REMARKS:

Claims 22, 23, 28, and 29 are currently being considered, none of which have been amended herein. No new claims have been added herein. Claims 19-21 and 25-27 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter. Applicants respectfully believe that no new matter has been introduced.

Claims 22, 23, 28, and 29 stand allowed.

The Examiner has rejected claims 19-21 and 25-27 under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over USP 6,429,898 (**Shoda**) in view of USP 5,463,421 (**Deguchi**). Claims 19-21 and 25-27 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer as to their subject matter. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 22, 23, 28, and 29 are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

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In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP

Darren R. Crew

Darren R. Crew
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 37,806

DRC/llf
Atty. Docket No. **990864**
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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